



Mozambique: President Guebuza Visits Cherbourg Shipyard

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Cherbourg — Mozambican President Armando Guebuza on Monday visited the shipyard in the northern French port of Cherbourg where thirty boats are being built with funds guaranteed by the Mozambican government.

The order is for 24 fishing boats and six patrol vessels, and has been valued in the French press at between 200 and 300 million euros.

The money will come from a 500 million US dollar bond issue by a new Mozambican company EMATUM (National Tuna Company). The major shareholder in EMATUM is the Institute for the Management of State Holdings (IGEPE) with 34 per cent. The other shareholders are the state fishing company Emopesca and GIPS (Management of Investments, Holdings and Services), with 33 per cent each.

In Cherbourg, AIM could see at least six boats ready to be exported to Mozambique.

President Guebuza and his French host, President Francois Hollande, inspected a coastal protection vessel with the Mozambican flag painted on the side.

According to President Guebuza, "as we have seen, some boats are already packaged while others are being prepared. These will soon proceed to Mozambique".



Photo: Port Maputo

MV Linares alongside at Port Maputo

President Guebuza added that the visit by the two heads of state to the shipyard signifies the importance placed on security in the Mozambique Channel.

Maritime security is particularly important for Mozambique in the areas of fishing, hydrocarbons, transport and tourism.

Since its foundation in 1945, CMN has constructed 350 boats, of which 285 are military vessels.

Originally, the Presidential visit to France was planned to last two days. However, it was extended by a day to enable President Guebuza to meet with dozens of French business figures in Paris and visit Cherbourg.

President Guebuza told AIM, "our visit to France has been a success and has strengthened all aspects of our relations. The visit is going to create the conditions for more jobs in Mozambique".

The President added that during the visit he had called on French businesses to give support in the areas of infrastructure, energy, agriculture and tourism.

He pointed out that there are already many French companies in Mozambique, but added that there is a need for more.

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